

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 26-35 are pending in this application. Claims 26-35 are independent. All of the pending claims stand rejected. By this amendment, claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34 and 35 have been amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Rejections

Claims 26-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0085956 to Irizawa et al. (“Irizawa”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6, 145,950 to Ohtsuka et al. (“Ohtsuka”) and U.S. Patent No. 5,774,146 to Mizutani (“Mizutani”).

The invention as featured in claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35 as amended is characterized by comprising, *inter alia*, three structures, i.e., (1) discrimination portion, (2) storage portion, and (3) display control means. An image may be printed on a plurality of types of printing media by selectively using pigment ink and dye ink.

The discrimination portion discriminates whether the type of ink used for printing is the pigment ink or dye ink. The storage portion stores information regarding three types of the printing media, i.e., the first type of the printing medium has applicability relation with only the dye ink, the second type of the printing medium has applicability relation with only the pigment ink, and third type of the printing medium has applicability relations with both the pigment ink and dye ink. Display control means controls a display portion, on the basis of the type of the

inks discriminated by the discrimination portion and information stored in storage portion. That is, the display control means controls the display portion so as to display the type of the printing medium having the applicability relation with the type of ink discriminated by discrimination portion, and so as not to display the type of the printing medium having no applicability relation with the type of ink discriminated by discrimination portion.

The pigment ink and dye ink is greatly different in permeability in the printing medium. For example, the first type of the printing medium is a back print film, the second type is a syn. paper, and the third type is a photo glossy, as explained in the specification. With the features of the present invention as featured in claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35, it is possible to display any one of the three types of the printing media having applicability relation with the ink discriminated by the discrimination portion. As a result, the printing medium having applicability relation with the pigment ink and/or dye ink can be readily selected as a printing medium to be used for printing.

In Irizawa, an ink/printing media discriminating portion 260a discriminates printing media, and then, the kind of ink which is adaptive to the printing medium discriminated is automatically set. For example, reactive dye ink is automatically set when printing medium is cotton, while disperse dye ink is automatically set when printing medium is polyester. In other words, the printing medium and the kind of ink are in a one-to-one relationship, i.e., information regarding printing medium corresponding to ink A, and information regarding printing medium corresponding to ink B are stored in a memory. However, the memory does not store information regarding printing medium corresponding to both of ink A and B. Accordingly, Irizawa does not at least disclose the storage portion of claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35.

Additionally, Irizawa does not disclose the display control means of claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35 as admitted in the Office Action page 5.

Ohtsuka discloses a structure of selecting printing medium based on the concentration of ink, i.e., a high concentration ink, intermediate concentration ink, and low concentration ink. However, Ohtsuka does not disclose a structure of selecting printing medium based on the type of ink, i.e., the pigment ink and dye ink as specifically required by claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34 and 35. As a result, Ohtuka fails to disclose none of the three structures in claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35.

Mizutani is cited as allegedly disclosing the determining means of claims 27, 28, 31 and 33.

Accordingly, each of claims 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35 is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited references (i.e., Irizawa, Ohtsuka and Mizutani), either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

The invention as featured in claims 27, 28, 31, and 33 is characterized by comprising, *inter alia*, “determining means” that determines the type of printing medium as a printing medium to be used for printing, which is selected by a selection portion after warned by the warning means.

As indicated above, Mizutani is cited as disclosing the determining means of claims 27, 28, 31 and 33. In particular, the Office Action refers at page 10 to Abstract and col. 2, lines 37-50 of Mizutani for the basis of the rejection. However, Applicant notes that the cited portion merely discloses a structure of selecting a color-conversion table corresponding to the kind of

printing medium, and does not disclose the determining means as featured in claims 27, 28, 31 and 33 of the present invention.

Accordingly, each of claims 27, 28, 31 and 33 is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited references (i.e., Irizawa, Ohtsuka and Mizutani), either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 26-35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

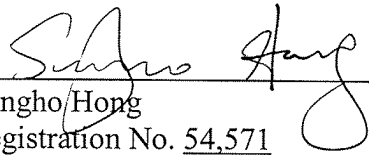
A petition for a one-month extension of time along with the associated fee is enclosed, extending the date for responding until December 18, 2006. Should an additional extension of time be required to render this paper timely filed, such extension is hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any other fees necessitated by this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-5255). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: December 5, 2006

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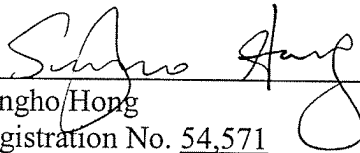
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